

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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USOECD

PASS EB/ITP, EUR/RPE

PASS STR ELECTRONICALLY FOR HEIMLICH

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRD, OECD
SUBJECT: STEEL COMMITTEE: PARTICIPATION OF
NON-MEMBERS

REF: A) PARIS 24695 B) PARIS 29852

1. INITIAL INDICATIONS ARE THAT CONCEPT OF "NEGATIVE
CONSENSUS" FOR OECD COUNCIL APPROVAL OF INVITATION
TO NON-MEMBERS TO PARTICIPANTS IN STEEL COMMITTEE,
AS EMBODIED IN DRAFT COUNCIL DECISION TRANSMITTED
REF B, IS MEETING WITH CONSIDERABLE RESISTANCE.
DEP SEC GEN WOOTTON TOLD US THAT RECENT VAN LENNEP
LUNCH WITH HEADS OF EC-9 DELS (WHO, HOWEVER, HAD NOT
HAD MUCH TIME TO CONSIDER ISSUE) REVEALED DANES,
GERMANS, AND FRENCH VERY COOL TO IDEA. JAPANESE
DCM YANAI HAS ALSO TOLD US DIRECTLY THAT GOJ STRONGLY
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OPPOSES "NEGATIVE CONSENSUS" PROPOSAL,
WHICH IT CONSIDERS TRANSPARENT DELEGATION OF AN
AUTHORITY WHICH SHOULD BE RETAINED BY THE COUNCIL.

2. VAN LENNEP WISHES STRONGLY TO PRESENT CASE FOR
DRAFT COUNCIL DECISION TO HEADS OF DEL BEFORE HE
LEAVES FOR WASHINGTON AT END OF NEXT WEEK. HE IS

SCHEDULING HEADS OF DEL DISCUSSION FOR MORNING OF
SEPTEMBER 21, WHILE DELEGATES TO AD HOC STEEL GROUP
ARE STILL IN PARIS.

3. COMMENT: ON THEIR OWN, WE WOULD EXPECT LOCAL
REPS TO BE UNENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT "NEGATIVE CONSENSUS"
IDEA. SEPT. 21 DISCUSSION, EVEN THOUGH IT WILL BE
OFF THE RECORD AND VAN LENNEP PRESENTATION WILL
FAVOR OUR POINT OF VIEW, RUNS RISK OF SNOWBALLING OPPO-
SITION TO THIS CONCEPT IF LOCAL REPS HAVE NO GUIDANCE
FROM CAPITALS. WE STRONGLY RECOMMEND US MAKE REPRESENTATIONS
IN CAPITALS ON PARTICIPATION OF
NON-MEMBERS QUESTION BEFORE THIS MEETING. IN ADDITION
AMBASSADOR SALZMAN IS PREPARED TO MAKE US CASE WITH
KEY PERMREPS OF UK, JAPAN, AND FRG -- WHO WILL BE WITH
HIM ON TRIP TO BERLIN NEXT WEEK - AND MISSION
CAN LOBBY DELEGATIONS IN PARIS.

4. ON SEPARATE POINT, WOOTTON NOTED THAT UK RESER-
VATION ON ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMITTEE PENDING
RESOLUTION OF OUTSTANDING ANTIDUMPING CASES WAS
STILL A HURDLE TO BE OVERCOME. MISSION BELIEVES
BEST TACTIC WITH UK IS TO LET THEM ALONE ON THIS AND
WORK FOR MAXIMUM CONSENSUS ON STEEL RESOLUTION
AND COUNCIL DECISION. IN END UK WILL BE ISOLATED
AND FIND IT DIFFICULT TO BLOC ESTABLISHMENT OF
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COMMITTEE. SECRETARIAT AGREES WITH THIS ANALYSIS.
SALZMAN

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